

REMARKS

In response to the above Office Action and the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, claim 1 has been amended to avoid the noted rejections of the claim.

Regarding the phrase including the term "inherent standard," this is a literal translation of the original Japanese phrase in the PCT application. It is believed it is better written as "a standard tip position inherent to said tool rest" as now set forth in amended claim 1. Support for this can be found on page 9, lines 16 and 17 of the specification.

Regarding claim 6, this has been cancelled and replaced by new independent claim 9 to avoid the rejections of the claim under §112, second paragraph. New claims 10 and 11 correspond to former claims 7 and 8.

It is believed new claims 9-11 also avoid the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §101.

Withdrawal of the rejections of the claims under §112, second paragraph and §101 is requested.

In the Office Action the Examiner also rejected claims 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) for being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,636,777 to Kokubo et al., hereafter Kokubo. Applicant is familiar with this patent because it belongs to the same assignee.

It is believed new claim 9 avoids this ground of rejection because it includes structure for carrying out all of method steps of claim 1 which is already considered to be patentable over Kokubo.

It is believed claims 1-5 and 9-11 are in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: September 4, 2007

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